Counties were assigned to tiers based on the poverty level of the county according to data from the 2000 Census.

Tier 1 Counties are:
Eligible to receive Staying Connected funds for hardware replacement in 2004. Tier 1 libraries are also eligible to apply for training sub-grants in 2004.

1. Allendale (AHJ)
2. Bamberg (ABBE)
3. Barnwell (ABBE)
4. Calhoun
5. Charleston
6. Chesterfield
7. Clarendon
8. Colleton
9. Darlington
10. Dillon
11. Fairfield
12. Florence
13. Georgetown
14. Hampton (AHJ)
15. Jasper (AHJ)
16. Lee
17. Marion
18. Marlboro
19. McCormick
20. Newberry
21. Orangeburg
22. Saluda
23. Sumter
24. Williamsburg

Tier 2 Counties are:
Eligible to receive Staying Connected grant funds for hardware in 2005. Tier 2 libraries are eligible to apply for training sub-grants in 2004.

1. Abbeville
2. Aiken (ABBE)
3. Anderson
4. Beaufort
5. Berkeley
6. Chapin Memorial
7. Cherokee
8. Chester
9. Dorchester
10. Edgefield (ABBE)
11. Greenville
12. Greenwood
13. Horry
14. Kershaw
15. Lancaster
16. Laurens
17. Lexington
18. Oconee
19. Pickens
20. Richland
21. Spartanburg
22. Union
23. York